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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A method for backing up a mass storage the method comprising:

accepting, at a log-assisted disk, mass storage write commands for the mass storage to be backed up;

appending, at the log-assisted disk, a time to each of said mass storage write commands to form a log entry;

queuing log entries in a log queue at the log-assisted disk; and

writing log entries from the log queue into a log file in a local mass storage different from the mass storage to be backed up.

Claim 10 (Original): A method as in claim 9 further comprising storing the log file in a non volatile storage.

Claim 11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A method as in claim 10 wherein the local mass storage is a hard disk.

Claim 13 (Original): A method as in claim 10 wherein the storing the log file in a non volatile storage further comprises:

providing the log file to a network interface;

using the network interface to couple the log file into a network;

accepting the log file from the network; and

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storing the log file on a mass storage device.

Claim 14 (Original): A method as in 13 wherein using the network interface to couple the log file into a network further comprises:

receiving a status from the network;

testing the status to determine if the network traffic is low; and

coupling the log file into the network dependant on the network traffic.

Claim 15 (Original): A method as in claim 9 the method further comprising taking a snapshot of the mass storage to be backed up prior to accepting mass storage write commands for the mass storage to be backed up.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): A method as in claim 9 wherein the step of writing log entries from the log queue into a log file further comprises:

determining the sector to be written to from the most recent log entry;

searching for log entries having an earlier time stamp which writes to the same address; and

deleting any log entries with an earlier time stamp which writes data to the same address as the most recent log entry.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): A method of recreating the state of a mass storage device at a given time the method comprising:

accepting a snapshot of the state of a mass storage device taken at a point in time earlier than the given time;

accepting log entries having timestamps later than the point in time of the snapshot;

writing the snapshot to a storage device on which the mass storage device is being restored;

writing the log entries having timestamps later than the point in time of the snapshot to the storage device on which the mass storage device is being restored; and

terminating the writing of the log entries when the timestamp of the log entry is equal to the given time.

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Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A method as in claim 17 wherein the accepting a snapshot of the state of a mass storage device and accepting log entries from the time of the snapshot further comprises accepting a snapshot of the state of a mass storage device and accepting log entries from the point in time of the snapshot from a network connection.

Claim 19 (Original): A method as in claim 18 where the network is the Internet.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): An article of manufacture comprising a computer readable media and computer code which causes a computer to:

accept mass storage write commands for a mass storage to be backed up at a log-assisted disk;

append a time to each of said mass storage write commands to form a log entry at the log-assisted disk;

queue log entries in a log queue at the log-assisted disk; and

write log entries from the log queue into a log file in a mass storage different from the mass storage to be backed up.

Claims 21-32 (Canceled).

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A method for continuously backing up computer data to a mass storage system, said method comprising:

- a) receiving write commands from an application running on a computer;
- b) converting each received write command to a sector write having a sector address and sector data;
- c) sending each sector write to a log-assisted disk;
- d) combining each sector write with a time stamp at the log-assisted disk to form a log entry;
- e) queuing log entries at the log-assisted disk;
- f) communicating the log entries to a mass storage system; and
- g) storing the log entries in a log file at the mass storage system.

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Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 33 further including taking a snapshot of the data stored on the computer prior to receiving write commands.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 33 wherein the mass storage system is in network communication with the computer.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 33 wherein the mass storage system is located at the computer.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 35 wherein communicating the log entries to the mass storage system is further defined by:

- a) providing the log entries to a network interface at the computer;
- b) using the network interface to couple the log entries into a network; and
- c) accepting the log entries from the network at the mass storage system.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 33 wherein the step of storing the log entries in a log file is further defined by:

- a) determining a sector address to be written to from a received log entry;
- b) searching for log entries having an earlier time stamp which were written to the same sector address; and
- c) deleting any log entries with an earlier time stamp which were written to the same sector address as the received log entry.

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